GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2450
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008
SURVEY OF MARINE FISHERIES
Manoj Dr. K.S.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has completed the marine fishery resources survey;

(b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(c) whether the census has revealed any depletion or extinction of any species of fish in our territorial waters; and

(d) if so, details thereof and the remedial action being taken by the Government to replenish the depleting marine fisheries resource?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a)&(b): No sir, Marine fisheries survey is an ongoing programme involving monitoring of fishery resources in the areas which are already surveyed within 200m depth, fresh survey of demersal and oceanic pelagic fish resources of our Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), fish stock identification, fish biodiversity studies and application of remote sensing techniques for marine fisheries fore casting.

(c)&(d): The marine census was conducted to gather data on demographics of coastal inhabitants and the details of physical assets for fishing such as boats, nets etc and was not focused on the species composition of territorial waters. However, the desk study conducted for revalidation of marine fishery potential during October 2000 has revealed reduction in total landings of some commercial species and altered pattern in quantities landed in respect of some others, basically due to changes that are taking place in the fishing methods, area; and seasonal and climatic influence.Resource conservation and sustainable fishing practices are advocated as enshrined in the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

(CCRF) of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with accent on increased stakeholder participation.Enforcement of provisions of Marine Fishing Regulation Act (MFRA), imposing uniform fishing ban are other measures implemented in coastal fisheries.